

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TOKYO 13909 020759Z  
ACTION OES-09

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 COME-00 NSF-02 INT-05 HUD-02  
/031 W

-----042748 030348Z /15

R 020742Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0077

UNCLAS TOKYO 13909

FOR OES/APT/BMP

DEPT. PASS TO NBS; NSF; USGS; DHUD

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: TPHY, JA  
SUBJECT: EARTHQUAKE PREDICTION - JAPAN'S FOURTH FIVE-YEAR  
PLAN

REF: TOKYO 10666

1. ON JULY 1, THE GEODETIC COUNCIL, AN ADVISORY BODY TO THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, ADOPTED A FOURTH FIVE YEAR PLAN FOR EARTHQUAKE PREDICTION (TO START IN FY 1979) AND PRESENTED IT TO CABINET MINISTERS. THE PLAN STRESSES PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF EARTHQUAKE PREDICTION TECHNIQUES AND DEVELOPMENT OF IMMINENT EARTHQUAKE PREDICTION METHODS. IT CALLS FOR: A) STRENGTHENING OF OBSERVATION AND RESEARCH RELATED TO LONG-RANGE FORECASTING; B) CONCENTRATION ON AREAS DETERMINED TO BE PRONE TO LARGE EARTHQUAKES WITH STRESS ON DEVELOPMENT OF A SYSTEM FOR PREDICTING AND REPORTING (WARNING) THAT AN EARTHQUAKE IS IMPENDING; C) PROMOTION OF BASIC RESEARCH INTO EARTHQUAKE CAUSES; D) CONCENTRATION OF DATA COLLECTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF AN ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE FOR DECISION MAKING CONCERNING EARTHQUAKE DANGER AND WARNING ISSUANCE.

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2. TO CARRY OUT THE ABOVE, THE COUNCIL CALLED FOR INCREASING THE NUMBER OF INSTRUMENTS TAKING MEASUREMENTS IN THE TOKAI AND KANTO AREAS SO THAT THE DISTANCE BETWEEN MEASUREMENT SITES WOULD BE DECREASED FROM 40 KILOMETERS TO ABOUT 20 KILOMETERS. IT ALSO PROPOSES A SYSTEM OF EIGHT LINES OF OBSERVATION FROM 100 TO 200 KILOMETERS LONG IN

WHICH THE FIVE NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES ENGAGED IN EARTHQUAKE PREDICTION RESEARCH WOULD OPERATE SEISMIC SENSING DEVICES, ALL OF WHICH WOULD BE CONNECTED TO THE METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY BY AN ON-LINE COMPUTER SYSTEM. THE JMA WOULD CONDUCT 24 HOUR OBSERVATION. THE PLAN ALSO CALLS FOR

STRENGTHENING OF OBSERVATION EFFORTS IN THE AREAS OF: GRAVITATIONAL CHANGES, TERRESTRIAL MAGNETISM, GROUND ELECTRICAL CURRENT FLOW, AND UNDERGROUND WATER. MORE CABLES EQUIPPED WITH SENSING DEVICES, SUCH AS THE ONE BEING LAID OFF OMAEZAKI (REFTEL), ARE TO BE LAID IN UNDERSEA AREAS IMPORTANT IN EARTHQUAKE PREDICTION. THE 6,000 POINTS USED TO MEASURE HORIZONTAL MOVEMENT OF THE EARTH'S CRUST THROUGHOUT THE ARCHIPELAGO ARE TO BE RESURVEYED. MANSFIELD

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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